

At the Embassy of Turkmenistan in the Kingdom of Belgium, a cultural evening was organized to promote intercultural dialogue, public diplomacy, and showcase the unique cultural heritage of Turkmenistan.



The event continued the official session previously held at the European Parliament on neutrality and peace and was arranged by the Embassy of Turkmenistan in collaboration with the European Network on Cultural Policy and Management Education (ENCATC).

The cultural evening brought together representatives from the arts, cultural organizations, media, members of the European Parliament, and heads of diplomatic missions accredited in Brussels.

The Ambassador of Turkmenistan to Belgium, Sapar Palvanov, delivered a welcoming speech, emphasizing that culture and neutrality are inseparable parts of the philosophy of peace. "Culture builds bridges between peoples—stronger and more enduring than any political agreements," he stated. The ambassador also expressed Turkmenistan's readiness



to implement joint cultural projects in Europe and Turkmenistan as part of its neutral and open foreign policy.

Special gratitude was extended to Ms. Giannali Choliandro-Beyens, General Secretary of <u>ENCATC</u>, for her participation and support in organizing the event. In her speech, she highlighted the importance of culture as the foundation of humanitarian dialogue and sustainable international partnerships.



Appreciation was also expressed to Ms. Elena Kharitonova, the founder of the Central Asia-European Creative Alliance, for her active collaboration with the Embassy and fostering cultural connections between the regions.

The evening featured a presentation of Turkmenistan's cultural heritage, with a special focus on:

- traditional jewelry,
- national embroidery,



• decorative and applied arts, symbolizing the rich history, uniqueness, and artistic expression of the Turkmen people.

Guests showed great interest in the displayed exhibits, discussing the symbolism, stylistics, and spiritual meanings of Turkmen culture.



The event concluded with a serving of traditional Turkmen pilaf, which allowed participants to engage with the culture not only through art but also to savor its flavors—yet another expression of Turkmen hospitality and generosity.